

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 08523 101744Z

47

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00
SSO-00 IGA-02 L-03 AID-05 MC-02 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00
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O 101718Z DEC 76 ZFF-6

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9487

INFO USAF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BEL IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 8523

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MASS, PO

SUBJ: FORCE MODERNIZATION: T-38 AIRCRAFT

REF: (A) LISBON IR 6 879 0650 76 (DTG 060905Z DEC 76),
(B) CHMAAG 191600Z OCT 76

1. BACKGROUND: I UNDERSTAND THAT USAF IS GIVING SERIOUS
CONSIDERATION TO PROPOSAL PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE (PAF) CHIEF
OF STAFF GEN MORAIS DE SILVA MADE TO GEN JONES FOR RETURN OF
16 MAP-PROVIDED T-33 TRAINERS IN EXCHANGE FOR SIX T-38'S.
(REF A) MAAG REPORTED THIS REQUEST IN OCTOBER WHEN ORIGINALLY
RAISED WITH BG SCHWEITZER (REF B). PAF CONSIDERS T-38 IDEAL RE-
PLACEMENT FOR AGING T-33'S AND A LEAD-IN TO ACQUISITION OF
F-5E SQUADRON PROGRAMMED IN DPQ 76 FOR NATO BRIGADE.

2. I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE PAF REQUEST. T-38 PROPOSAL IS
REASONABLE AND REALISTIC. IT WILL BE A SIGNIFICANT ASSIST TO
PAF PRO-WEST LEADERSHIP AND TO PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM.
ONLY CAVEAT IS THAT T-38'S NOT BE INTRODUCED AT THE
EXPENSE OF OTHER VITAL PROGRAMS ALREADY PLANNED FOR OUR
MILITARY ASSISTANCE EFFORT.

3. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION IS THAT THE PROVISION OF
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T-38'S WOULD BE CONCRETE DEMONSTRATION OF CONTINUING US

SUPPORT FOR NATO BRIGADE CONCEPT.
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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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